

West Salem School District

February 2014



Newsletter

Referendum: Who, What, Where, Why

By Troy M. Gunderson, Superintendent

On Monday, January 13, the West Salem school board decided to move forward with the process of holding a referendum to seek voter approval to proceed with two capital projects. The referendum ballot will offer two specific questions. The first question requests voter approval to borrow up to \$32 million for the purpose of constructing a new 4-8 middle/intermediate school. The second question seeks “one-time” permission to exceed the revenue limit by \$500,000 during the 2014-2015 school year for the purpose of providing security upgrades to our elementary school.

What will be built? A new school building designed to serve students in grades 4 through 8. The new building will consist of approximately 160,000 square feet of space including classrooms and shared spaces such as a cafeteria, library and gymnasium. In addition, the project will offer site development including a new access road connecting to Garland Street just east of the Lakeview Health Center. The project at the elementary school will include a more secure front entry and office area.

Where will the new building be located? The new 4-8 middle/intermediate school will be located on the property just to the north of our current soccer complex. The district purchased this land in 2007 as a future building site. Also note, the school district is currently completing an agreement with La Crosse County for the purchase of 25 additional acres to the east of the soccer complex. A portion of this new property will be used to create an access road to the proposed new school.



How will this impact my tax bill? The school district’s current long-term debt payment is approximately \$2 million per year. This includes approximately \$1.3 million for the high school and the final \$0.7 million payment on the elementary school. Should the voters approve the first question and thereby direct the board to borrow an additional \$32 million for a new school, the new annual long-term debt payment will be approximately \$2.7 million. The expiration of the elementary school debt along with historically low interest rates results in a lower payment. The estimated long-term tax impact will be an increase of approximately \$.70 per thousand per year or \$70 for every \$100,000 worth of property.

In regards to approval of the second question providing one-time permission to exceed the revenue limit by \$500,000 for the purpose of security upgrades at our elementary school; the structure of our current debt payment schedule will allow the district to arrange its payments to accommodate this exemption without increasing the tax rate. In short, the final debt payment on our elementary school will be made in October, thereby creating a unique window to “fit in” a one-time exemption without impacting the tax levy.

Why is the district considering this now? The continued pressure of enrollments at our elementary school, the need for facility upgrades to our middle school, escalating construction costs, low interest rates and community input directing the board to “do it right” suggest now is the right time to move forward.

The elementary school is operating at or beyond capacity by serving nearly 800 children and their families on a daily basis. With more students expected to enroll in the future, there is little margin for error. The middle school is now more than 30 years old, and much like the high school prior to the 2001 remodeling project, will require a number of upgrades and expansions to remain a safe, healthy and productive facility moving forward.

The financial projections regarding future construction costs and interest rates indicate the cost of school district construction and remodeling projects will continue to rise. It appears waiting will cost more in the long run.

Finally, input offered at the community meetings held last summer suggested the school board seek the best long term solution by constructing a high quality, efficient, 21st century learning facility large enough to allow for future growth.

What will happen to the old middle school? The school board has been working with a number of local groups interested in repurposing the current middle school. In light of the school board's official decision to move forward with a referendum, the discussion and planning will become more formal.

What happens next? During the upcoming months there will be ample opportunities for each citizen to ask questions and gather information. Our district web site includes a separate page entitled "School Referendum Information." The page will be updated on a regular basis to offer current information and answers to commonly asked questions. You may submit your questions directly to me at gunderson.troy@wsalem.k12.wi.us

The referendum process represents the purest form of school district governance. While nearly all district decisions are made by board members on behalf of the citizens they represent, referendums afford each citizen the opportunity for direct participation. To ensure this approach with respect to major financial matters, state law requires voter approval to enter into long-term debt and to exceed the annual revenue limit. This very definition of democracy requires each one of us to do our part - become informed and vote April 1, 2014!



NOTICE OF ELECTION SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST SALEM APRIL 1, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the School District of West Salem on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 the following questions will be submitted to a vote of the people:

QUESTION NUMBER I

"Shall the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$32,000,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of constructing a new middle school for grades 4-8 and related site work; undertaking infrastructure and capital improvements on the District's campus, including constructing an access road; and acquiring furnishings, fixtures and equipment?"

QUESTION NUMBER II

"Shall the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$500,000 for the 2014-2015 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of security improvements at the Elementary School?"

A copy of the entire text of the resolution directing submission of the questions set forth above to the electorate and information concerning District boundaries can be obtained at the School District offices located at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, Wisconsin 54669.

Persons with questions regarding the referendum election should contact Troy M. Gunderson, Superintendent.

The West Salem School District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the Pupil Services Director at (608)786-0700. To file a complaint of discrimination write to: Pupil Services Director at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI 54669 or call 608-786-0700. The West Salem School District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Coulee Region Junior Achievement Business Challenge

Where: Gundersen Health System, ICE House

When: March 19, 2014

Time: 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT
Junior Achievement of Wisconsin Coulee Region
C/O WTC C-106; Susan Peterson
400 Seventh Street North, LaCrosse, WI 54602
608.789.4777 (phone) 715.835.5566 (direct)
wisconsin.ja.org



February Art Display

The West Salem Art Department is proud to announce that Ivy King is the Art Student of the Month for February. Ivy is one of the few

students whose technical skills and attention to detail transfers well to two-dimensional and three dimensional pieces. Ivy's paintings and ceramics work will be on display at the Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts Gallery, along with the paintings of Joan Gundersen. The public is invited to a reception on Thursday, February 20, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.



NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

§120.06(8)(C), Wis. Stats.

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the West Salem School District that on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, Spring election of school board members will be held. Candidates for the school board are as follows:

Catherine Griffin
Sylvester Clements
Ralph N. Thorn

Electors will vote in their regular polling places. Polls will be open and time may be obtained by contacting appropriate town and village clerks. Or by visiting the following website.

<http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/countyclerk/docs/PollingPlaces.pdf>

A new 'Brown Bag' program is being implemented in the community of West Salem

We are all dealing with a tough economy and this program is looking to help those in need with meals for the week-ends or days with no school. The brown bags will contain non-perishable food items to have on hand to supplement meals over the weekend. We encourage anyone interested in participating in the program to call Ryan Tienhaara, Elementary School Counselor, at 786-1662. Once the number of participants is determined, a start date, location and schedule for pick up will be established. Our goal is to try to make it an easy and private experience. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Jenny Greiner at 769-4891.

West Salem Athletic Booster Club Fun Night

Saturday, February 8, 2014

Fox Hollow Banquet Hall

5:30 Door open

Dinner - Prime Rib

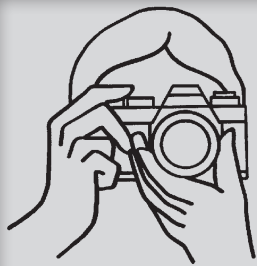
Tickets: \$25

Vegas style games, silent auction, bucket auction.

Also the best dressed in *West Salem spirit* that night will win \$75.

For tickets you can contact Adam Kennedy at 385-6375.

The 2014-2015 School Year Student Calendar is available on the District's website.
www.wsalem.k12.wi.us Calendars - PDF District Calendar



District Photo Contest

The School District of West Salem will be holding a photo contest for the 2013-2014 school year. The district is looking for photos to be displayed in the district office for the 2014-15 school year. **Photos should highlight the best the district has to offer.** Contest information can be found under "Announcements" on the district's web site. www.wsalem.k12.wi.us

April Art in Bloom Show

The Heider Center Art Gallery will be hosting an Art in Bloom show the month of April we are looking for area artists to display 2D and 3D artwork for the month of April. We are also looking for florists and anyone else with an interest in floral arranging. Once the artwork is on exhibit the floral arrangers will pick a piece of artwork to make an interpretation of in a floral design.

Anyone interested in participating in this show please contact Judy Thelen at (608)786-0233 or jlwath@charter.net

Call for Artists

9th Annual Mayfair Arts Festival
Sunday, May 4, 2014 — 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Artists interested in participating in the art fair can call Jane at 786-2388 or e-mail mayfairart@hotmail.com.

Applications are also available at the Heider Center Box Office.

Your school district needs you...

Do you like working with students and staff?
Would you like to earn extra money?
The district is looking for substitutes in the following areas:

SUBSTITUTE Licensed Teachers
SUBSTITUTE Paraprofessionals

- For an application, visit the district's web site. www.wsalem.k12.wi.us
- Click on Employment Opportunities
- Scroll down and click on the Substitute Employment Application Form.
- You may also contact the District Office at 608-786-0700 for an application. You may also stop in at the District Office at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI to pick-up an application form.

Check Out <http://www.badgerlink.net/>

BadgerLink is Wisconsin's online library which provides access to licensed content such as magazines, newspapers, scholarly articles, videos, images, and music. These resources are provided exclusively for use by all Wisconsin residents and are materials that are not available through regular search engines such as Google.

Check out our Activities by Outside Agencies page for a list of activities and events available for your children.

Visit www.wsalem.k12.wi.us, under Other Links, then click Activities Outside Agencies. Flyers are no longer being sent home with students. Announcements for non-school activities/events will be posted on the Activities by Outside Agencies page.

ALUMINUM FOR ATHLETICS

When cleaning up around the garage, etc., you are encouraged to bring all aluminum cans to the can pen in the southwest corner of the Heider Center parking lot for recycling. West Salem Athletics will gain full benefit of this collection project. Also, if you have any car or truck batteries for recycling, please drop them off at West Salem Auto Repair at 513 Brickl Road, West Salem. Dave Eckelberg and the guys there have graciously offered their services to be our collection point for those recyclable batteries.

Open Enrollment

February 3-April 30, 2014

Apply on-line:

http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc

Who may participate in open enrollment?

- Students in 5-year-old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.
- Open enrollment for prekindergarten, 4-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment.

How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment application period for the 2014-15 school year is from February 3-April 30, 2014. The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2014. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.

Parents may apply in one of two ways:

- On-line (recommended) at
http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc.
- Although on-line application is recommended, paper applications may be obtained from the Department of Public Instruction and must be delivered (hand-delivery is recommended) to the nonresident school district.

For More Information

Public School Open Enrollment Program
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841
Toll-free: 888-245-2732

Email: openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov
Web site: http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc

Important open enrollment dates

February 3 – April 30, 2014 – Parents must submit applications online or directly to the nonresident school district.

June 6, 2014 – Nonresident school districts must mail notices of approval or denial. If the application is approved, the school district must notify the parents of the specific school or program to which the student is assigned. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

June 13, 2014 – Resident districts must notify applicants if the application is denied. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

June 27, 2014 – Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the student will attend the nonresident district in the 2014-15 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the student to attend the district.

Solo/Ensemble Volunteers Needed!

If you are interested and are available to help at this year's Solo/Ensemble Festival on Saturday, March 29, 2014, please contact Kelli Martin at martin.kelli@wsalem.k12.wi.us or 786-1220 ext. 2184. The typical day begins around 7:30 a.m. and ends before 4:00 p.m. The event is held here at WSHS. I hope to hear from many high school music parent volunteers!

Thank you,
Kelli Martin
Middle & High School Music Teacher

Looking For Used Cell Phones

The Knights of Columbus is collecting used cell phones. There is a box located in the District office to drop off any used cell phones. Proceeds from the collection of the phones will be used for Special Olympics. Thank You.

3-Year-Old

help me

Child Development Days



Tuesday, February 18 -- 3:30-5:30 p.m.

OR

Friday, February 21 -- 9:00-11:00 a.m.

If you have a child who will be three by September 1, 2014 please plan on bringing your child to one of the free developmental screening clinics at the West Salem Elementary School. Early childhood staff and a speech therapist will be available to interact with your child while looking for specific developmental milestones. They will have you fill out a questionnaire regarding your child's development and take the time to discuss all of this with you. Please plan on the whole process taking approximately 45 minutes.

Please call the school office at 786-1662 to let us know which date works for you.

Heider Center Events

Marig W. Heider Center for the Arts

Mainstage Series

Rock Legends with Billy McGuigan

This amazing group pays tribute to rock legends from the 50's through the 80's - Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, The Rolling Stones, The Who, Elton John, Tom Petty, U2 and more. You'll choose the music you want to hear with your applause.



Tickets: \$20/\$18

Saturday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m.

The Manhattan Dolls -

Sentimental Journey

Celebrate the timeless classics of the 30's and 40's with The Manhattan Dolls' blend of beautiful ballads, boogie woogie, blues, and a tribute to our brave men and women in the military.



Tickets: \$20/\$18

Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Gallery Art Shows

FEBRUARY

Mirrors in the sky - Reflections in Paint,
Joan Gundersen

MARCH

K-12 District Honors Show



Box Office
(608)786-2550

Monday: Noon to 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Friday: Noon to 4:00 p.m.

www.heidercenter.org

A cool way for people with warm hearts to support the *Special Olympics*.



March 1, 2014 • Pettibone Beach

For more information, call (608) 789-7596.

CHECK WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.specialolympicswisconsin.org/>

Special Olympics WI - South Central Area

Kerry Gloede - gloedek@cityoflacrosse.org,

400 La Crosse Street, La Crosse, WI 54601



Walking School Bus

On a **snowy** Friday, December 20, 17 kids participated in the "Holiday" Walking School Bus! Each student received a blinking pedestrian light to be seen and safe this winter, a holiday charm for their backpacks, and the winner of the sled was Victoria Lysne! We will be having another "Snowflake" Walking School Bus on February 28. A January "Penguin" Walking School Bus is scheduled for January 31.



Catch the famous walking school bus at the corner of West Hamlin and North Youlon (across from St Leo's Church) at 7:25 a.m. Thank you to Elementary School Physical Education Teacher Erin Ellerbach for coordinating the walking school bus.

Students Travel to Carnegie Hall

Abby Bahr and Brittany Dummer will be traveling to New York City in February to perform at Carnegie Hall in the Honors Concert Series. The girls were nominated by their choir director, Amy Hanson, in August. The students submitted audition recordings of 2 solos and were notified of their selected to participate at the end of October.

The High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall challenges elite students to perform at their very best. Students rehearse and perform under master conductors and have the opportunity to perform before invited representatives from collegiate and professional music programs. Though much of the students time is focused on performance preparation, the week also allows students to experience the best of the sights and the performance arts in New York City.

The High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall was established to showcase some of the most talented student performers in high schools today. Through an individual nomination and selection process, accomplished students are brought together in New York City with peers to comprise the Honors Choir and Honors Band and Honors Orchestra. Students come from across the United States, Canada, and select international schools.

**CONGRATULATIONS
ABBY AND BRITTANY!**



**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF GREAT MUSIC
AND DELICIOUS DESSERTS!**

SHOW CHOIR EXTRAVAGANZA



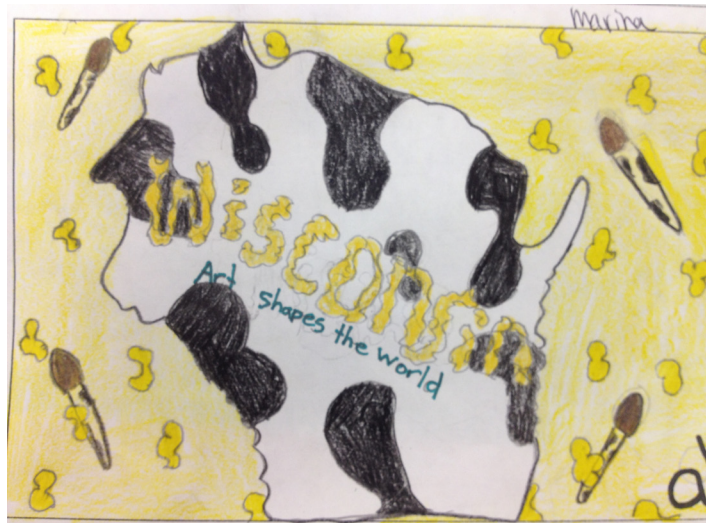
Saturday, February 22, 2014
Heider Center - 7:00 p.m.
Tickets \$5.00



FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY: Salem Singations, WSHS Elite Show Choir, Women's Show Choir, and Middle School Show Choir.

Following the show - delicious desserts and refreshments. Join us for an evening of great music and delicious desserts!

Proceeds go to the WSHS Show Choirs.



Congratulations Marina!

4th Grader Marina Thompson's artwork was selected as one of 16 designs that will be featured on this year's Wisconsin Art Education Association - Youth Art Month Flag.

After her design is printed on the 3'x5' flag it will be displayed at both the state YAM (Youth Art Month) celebration in Madison on Friday, April 4, as well as the National Art Education conference in San Diego, CA.

Marina's art was one of 327 submissions (k-12) from across the state of Wisconsin. What an honor for Marina!

(see 2nd row, 3rd image)



For a full-color version of this and past newsletters,
check out the West Salem School District Website at
www.wsalem.k12.wi.us

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2013
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Thomas Helgeson. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee News, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on December 12, 2013.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Ken Schlimgen led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Jane Halverson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Thomas Helgeson, Tom Ward (teleconference), Jason Falck, and Ken Schlimgen. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson (7:13), and John Smalley; Student representatives: Kaitlin Brueggen and Zachary Lang. Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Scott Scafe, Michael St. Perre, Mike Malott, and Lisa Gerke.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to approve the agenda as presented. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Kaitlin Brueggen reported on:

1. The November 6 UW-Platteville Math Contests results are available; the team placed fourth in their division. Individual placements in their division include: Christian Schran-2nd, Michael Uebele-7th, Noah Reedy-2nd, and Jackson Kalas-6th.
2. The high school Diversity Club started their Take What You Need campaign.
3. Youth Options students will be taking finals this week. Kaitlin thanked the board for their support of the Youth Options program.

Zachary Lang reported on:

1. The high school DECA club held a pancake breakfast with the proceeds (\$1,000) going to New Horizons Women's Care Shelter.
2. The high school Quiz Bowl teams took fifth and sixth at a recent competition in Madison.
3. The gymnastics team took second at their competition over the weekend.
4. The high school winter band concert was held this past Sunday, which also included a food drive. The musicians played all of the songs they plan on playing at the NBA (National Band Association) conference in January.

Correspondence—None.

Public comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Halverson reported that November 4 was her first meeting where she was sworn in and received introductions. Items discussed include: WASB breakfast at convention, new cell phone policy, daily rates for services for 2014-15, possible changes for the Board of control, and held a drawing for a charity.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Mr. Helgeson reported that the committee met last week and discussed the referendum and items to include, traffic flow, bus drop-off/pick-up, and parking.

District Performance Initiatives update by Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, John Smalley and Lisa Gerke, Mark Carlson and Mike Malott, Michael St. Pierre, Davita Molling, and Troy Gunderson were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 11, 2013; the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2013; invoices to be paid; and Open Enrollment requests for the 2013-2014 school year. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The School District of West Salem website
www.wsalem.k12.wi.us
is being updated, patience please.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Clements seconded to accept donations for the high school drama department from Macy's, for the robotics team from Brenengen Chevrolet, Inc., and for the high school prom committee from Sara Woodard. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Nick Hildebrandt, Jesse Lizer and Jane Miller from StruXture presented a building project update and shared drawings with the board and answered questions.

Mr. Gunderson led a discussion on referendum details and what other facility options to possibly include in the referendum. Mr. Falck moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to have one question on the referendum to include: the elementary safety addition, the middle school construction project and surrounding items (playground, etc.). Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Ward seconded to amend the question to make it two questions. A roll vote was taken on the amendment: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously. A roll vote was taken on the amended motion to have two questions on the referendum: 1) the elementary safety addition, 2) the middle school construction project and surrounding items (playground, etc.). Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the new course as proposed and the 2014-2015 high school course offerings. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the 2014-2015 school year staff calendar change as presented. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the issues surrounding the current plan for Other Post Employment Benefit compensation for contracted employees.

Mr. Ward moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to authorize Mr. Falck to vote his conscience on the delegate assembly proposals. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Falck seconded to hire Stacy Pelts as a part-time custodian. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Clements seconded to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations: high school unit leader, Cathy Tyink; high school Odyssey of the Mind coach, Angie Hemker; middle school forensics, Stacy Spors; and volunteer 7th grade boys' basketball coach, Nolan Wahoske. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Helgeson welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (e) "Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties" regarding the purchase of county land; and pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (c) "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility" regarding the superintendent's evaluation and Other Post Employment Benefit compensation for retirees.

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Falck seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:46 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Closed Session***Adjournment**

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to adjourn at 10:06 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Falck, Clerk

School District of West Salem
Special Board Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2014
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice President Thomas Helgeson. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee News, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on January 2, 2014. This meeting was at the request of a board member.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Ken Schlimgen led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Thomas Helgeson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Thomas Helgeson, Ken Schlimgen, and Scott Scafe. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan, John Smalley, and Michael St. Pierre; Student representatives: Kaitlin Brueggen and Zachary Lang. Finance Director: Davita Molling. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Tom Ward, Jason Falck, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Mike Malott, and Lisa Gerke.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Nick Hildebrandt from StruXture Architects, via teleconference, reviewed the estimated project costs for the grades 4-8 building.

Brian Brewer, RW Baird Managing Director, reviewed the current debt and project cost projections.

John Smalley left at 6:43 p.m.

Brian Brewer also reviewed the draft resolutions for the 2014 referendum questions.

Mr. Helgeson welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (c) “Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility” regarding the superintendent’s evaluation.

Mr. Clements moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:49 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Falck, Clerk
Patrick Bahr, Deputy Clerk

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2014
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Thomas Helgeson. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee News, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on January 10, 2014.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Jane Halverson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Jason Falck recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Thomas Helgeson, Tom Ward (via teleconference), Jason Falck, Ken Schlimgen, and Scott Scafe. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, John Smalley, and Michael St. Pierre; Student representatives: Kaitlin Brueggen and Zachary Lang. Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Mike Malott and Lisa Gerke.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve the agenda as presented. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Kaitlin Brueggen reported on:

1. High school orientation and scheduling with the current eighth grade students is taking place.
2. The high school Advanced Placement Government students are required to attend public meetings and some have attended our board meetings.
3. Kaitlin was proud to report that she placed fourth at the Regional Junior Science Symposium and won a trip to Washington D.C.

Zachary Lang reported on:

1. Students at the high school will be taking semester finals next week.
2. This Friday the high school wind symphony will be performing at the National Band Association conference in Wisconsin Rapids. Five students have been selected as all state and will also be performing: Dan Hessler, Brady Scafe, Athen Engen-Viner, Kyle Lang, and Zachary Lang.

Correspondence

A thank you note from the family of Phyllis Hetland was read.

Public comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Halverson reported on discussion action items: convention resolutions, custodial position, cell phone policy, increases for the 14-15 school year for programs, audit proposals, safety team created, discontinue WWLEARN at the end of 2013-14, CESA is in its 50th year; review of the administrators evaluation.

District Performance Initiatives by Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, John Smalley and Lisa Gerke, Mark Carlson and Mike Malott, Michael St. Pierre, and Troy Gunderson were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2013; and the invoices to be paid. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to accept the donation to the Horace Moran Fund from Stephen & Deborah Kraus. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Nick Hildebrandt from StruXture Architects recapped the process and final recommendations for the proposed new building project.

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve the INITIAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$32,000,000.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin that there shall be issued pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$32,000,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of constructing a new middle school for grades 4-8 and related site work; undertaking infrastructure and capital improvements on the District's campus, including constructing an access road; and acquiring furnishings, fixtures and equipment.

A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve a RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET TO EXCEED REVENUE LIMIT BY \$500,000 FOR NON-RECURRING PURPOSES.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin, that the revenues included in the School District budget be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$500,000 for the 2014-2015 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of security improvements at the Elementary School.

A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Falck moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve a RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A REFERENDUM ELECTION ON THE QUESTIONS OF THE APPROVAL OF AN INITIAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$32,000,000 AND A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET TO EXCEED REVENUE LIMIT BY \$500,000 FOR NON-RECURRING PURPOSES. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed information related to the county land purchase now that La Crosse County has accepted the district's offer to purchase land.

Mr. Gunderson provided a finance update on the 2014-15 budget.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed a preliminary salary model for teachers.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the current Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) options and what possible language changes may be for the future.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to accept the resignation of High School Athletic Director LeRoy Krall, effective June 30, 2014. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to accept the administration's recommendation for co-curricular positions. High school: Brian Babiash, head varsity softball; Julie Kamla, JV softball; Eric Borre, head varsity golf; Charles Ihle, head baseball; Jamie Olson, JV baseball; LeRoy Krall, head girls' track; Bret Miller, head boys' track; Stacy Mitchell and Garrett Carlson, assistant track. Middle school: Nicole Friell, Scott Johnson, Bill Jensen, and Sarah Weber, track; Casi Jones, 7th grade softball; Brad Skaer, 8th grade softball. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck

Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Helgeson welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (c) "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility" regarding nonrenewal/renewal, nonextension/extension, and employment of administrators.

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Falck seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:25 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Mr. Ward disconnected from the meeting.

Adjournment

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Falck, Clerk

DECA

On Saturday, January 11 the DECA Chapter went to UW-Stout and competed in their District Career Development Conference. We had our most successful conference ever with several students earning top awards. Kyrsten Stockus and Lilly Smith took home 4th place awards, Gabe Sweeney and Ethan Phelps finished 3rd in their events, Kate Sikyta and Abby Malisewski qualified for State by finishing 2nd, and Brennan Bahr, Erin Faella, Jinal Patel, Allison Rigotti and freshman Ben Sharp all took first their series events. Great job guys, next up is the State Conference in Lake Geneva in March!

Jason Holter
DECA Advisor



**DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. (www.deca.org)

WSHS Spring Sports Meeting

The West Salem High School pre-season sports' meeting for all spring sports will be held on Monday, March 3, 2014 in the Second Floor Conference Room of the high school beginning at 7:00 P.M. This meeting is for those athletes interested in participating in boys' or girls' track, girls' soccer, softball, golf and baseball, and their parents/guardians. The 7:00–8:00 P.M. general session is only for those parents and athletes who did not fulfill this obligation at the fall or winter pre-season meetings. At 8:00 P.M. all athletes and parents are expected to attend the break-out session with the coach(es) of their respective sport. From 6:30–9:00 P.M., there will be a station set up in the high school commons to check the necessary paperwork requirements of each athlete. All paperwork must be completed before beginning practice. If there are any questions, contact athletic director LeRoy Krall at 786-1220, Ext. 2353 or by email at Krall.Leroy@wsalem.k12.wi.us

For the girls' hockey schedule visit www.mvconference.org

On right, click on "Onalaska High School", select "Hockey - Girls VAR", click "View".

SOLES4SOULS

I want to thank everyone for donating shoes to **Soles4Souls**! I collected 322 pairs of shoes and they filled 10 packing boxes! I enjoyed seeing all the shoes as they were donated daily. All the shoes will go to people who need them very much. Altra Federal Credit Union and Jim Quinn from American Family insurance sponsored my shoe drive and are making sure the shoes get to those people. I couldn't have done this without all of you!

Thank you!
Ellie Slotten



Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

- 1 Wrestling -V (H) WS Team Tournament - 9:30
- 3 Boys Hockey-JV/V at Winona - 5:30/7:30
- 4 Boys Basketball-C/JV/V at Arcadia - 6:00/7:30
Girls Basketball-C-JV/V (H) Richland Center - 6:00/7:30
- 6 Girls Basketball-C/JV/V at Sparta - 5:50/7:30
- 7 Boys Basketball-C/JV/V (H) Onalaska Luther - 6:00/7:30
Boys Hockey-JV/V at Tomah - 5:00/7:00
- 7-8 WSHS Winter Play - "Check Please"
- 8 Girls Basketball-C/JV/V at Holmen - 5:50/7:30
Gymnastics-V at GET Invite - 9:00
Wrestling-JV/V at Conference at Arcadia
- 11 Girls Basketball-C/JV/V (H) Arcadia - 6:00/7:30
Boys Hockey-JV/V (H) Onalaska - 5:30/7:30
- 13 Boys Basketball-C/JV/V (H) Westby - 6:00/7:30
- 14 **No School**

Valentine's Day

WSHS Conference Honor Band at 7:00

- Girls Basketball-C/JV/V at Onalaska Luther - 6:00/7:30
Gymnastics-JV/V (H) GET - 6:30
Boys Hockey-JV/V at DC Everest - 4:45/7:00
- 15 Wrestling Regionals (H)
- 18 Girls Basketball-C/JV/V at La Crescent - 5:45/7:15
Boys Basketball-C/JV/V (H) Central - 6:00/7:30
Boys Hockey Regionals
Wrestling Team Sectionals at WI Dells
- 19 **Early Release - Students dismissed at 12:20, Buses leave at 12:30**
- 20 Girls Basketball-C/JV/V at Westby - 6:00/7:30
- 20-21 Boys Hockey Regionals
- 21 Boys Basketball-C/JV/V at GET - 6:00/7:30
Gymnastics Conference at Arcadia
- 22 **District Show Choir Extravaganza**
Wrestling Sectionals At Adams-Friendship
- 25 Boys Basketball Regional Quarter-Finals
Boys Hockey Sectionals
- 27 Girls Basketball-C/JV/V (H) GET - 6:00/7:30
- 27-28 Wrestling State at Madison
- 28 Boys Hockey Sectionals
Boys Basketball Regional Semi-Finals

MARCH

- 1 Boys Hockey Sectionals
Wrestling State at Madison
Boys Basketball Regional Finals
- 3 WSHS Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 4 **1st Grade Concert - 6:15**
3rd Grade Concert - 7:15

From the Superintendent
Substitutes Needed
Congratulations Abby, Brittany & Marina!
District Photo Contest
Open Enrollment
Child Development Evening
Art Gallery Display
A Call for Artists
Walking School Bus
Show Choir Extravaganza
Sports Parent Meeting
Heider Center Events & Gallery Display
Polar Plunge
School Board Referendum/Election Notice
Calendar of Events
School Board Minutes
Booster Club Fun Night
Brown Bag Program



B-A-O-AB?
Donate Blood
It takes all blood types,
all generations...Especially Yours

West Salem Blood Drive

Monday, February 3, 2014

Monday, June 9, 2014

12:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Presbyterian Church

625 West Franklin Street, West Salem, WI

Blood donor card or driver's license or two other
forms of ID required at check-in.

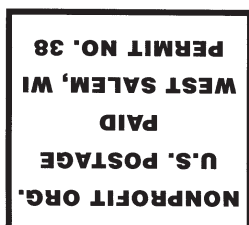
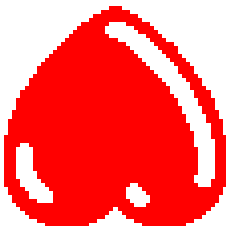
American Red Cross



Appointments call 786-0684. Walk-ins are Welcome.

Come One, Come All Band and Choir Folks!

This March marks the 10th year we have been blessed with the Heider Center as our performance facility. To celebrate, we are organizing 3 pieces to be performed by a combined band and choir incorporating all HS choir members, the HS Wind Symphony, and any alumni/community members who wish to join us. There will be a rehearsal from 9:00-Noon the day of the concert, which is Saturday, March 15 at 2:00. If you would like to be involved as a choir or band member please email Dave Kies at kies.dave@wsalem.k12.wi.us along with your instrument or voice range.



School District of West Salem
405 East Hamlin Street
West Salem, WI 54669